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Detectives arrest eight men in prostitution operation
Police are posting online "warning ads" to potential suspects

Howard County police conducted a reverse prostitution operation Feb. 20, resulting in the arrests of eight men for solicitation of prostitution and related charges.

Officers arrested the men for soliciting prostitution at a hotel in the 9800 block of Washington Boulevard in Laurel. As part of the operation, detectives placed fake ads on the website Backpage, which is a site known to detectives to be used for prostitution. Men who called the number in the ad spoke with undercover female officers, who provided a meeting location upon the caller's request. When the men arrived and offered money for sex, they were arrested and charged with solicitation of prostitution and disorderly conduct:

- Emerson Arnez, 33, of Gaithersburg
- Marcus Stephen Davis, 37, of Fort Washington
- Charnell Lineal Johnson, 38, of Westminster
- Houde Li, 26, of Halethorpe
- Bobby Mathew, 31, of Philadelphia, Pa.
- Cleavon Lopez Slater, 43, of Sykesville
- Donique Olando Thompson, 31, of Severn
- Scott Edward Waters, 41, of Manchester

This operation is part of Howard County's ongoing effort to combat prostitution, human trafficking and related offenses.

The HCPD also posts ads on relevant websites reminding people of the dangers and penalties of engaging in this kind of activity. The ads read:

LOOKING FOR A GIRL? POLICE ARE LOOKING FOR YOU.
HCPD has zero tolerance for Prostitution and Human Trafficking.
If you commit these crimes, you WILL be arrested, prosecuted and your personal information released to the media.
If you are a victim, HCPD can offer housing, treatment and other help.
If you suspect Human Trafficking, OR YOU, OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS A VICTIM:
• CALL 911 or 410-313-3200 to speak privately to a detective.
• Tip line: 410-290-3784 or email: hcpdcrimetips@howardcountymd.gov

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